

## Price of complete high-voltage switchboard equipment



### Overview

Panelboards / Switchboards and Switchgear Designed for the EUSERC market, these switchboards offer a compact footprint, short lead time, and cost-effective.

### Key Takeaways

Complete high-voltage switchboard equipment typically ranges from \$20,000 to over \$200,000 per unit, depending on voltage rating, configuration, and additional features. Price Range and Factors

The cost of a complete HV switchboard depends on several key factors:

- **Voltage Rating:** Common industrial voltages include 11kV, 20kV, and 33kV. Higher voltage ratings generally increase the price due to more robust insulation and components .
- **Switchgear Type:** Options include air-insulated (AIS), gas-insulated (GIS), and vacuum-insulated switchgear. GIS is more compact and safer but typically more expensive .
- **Components Included:** Complete switchboards include circuit breakers, disconnect switches, protection relays, metering transformers, surge arresters, and busbars. Arc-resistant or metal-clad designs add to the cost .
- **Customization and Integration:** Modular designs, SCADA integration, IoT-enabled monitoring, and predictive maintenance features increase the price .

- **New vs Refurbished:** Refurbished switchboards can reduce costs by 20–40% compared to new units, while still meeting IEC or ANSI standards .
- **Installation and Commissioning:** On-site installation, testing, and commissioning services are additional costs, often negotiated with suppliers .
- **Regional Market Variations:** Prices vary by region due to manufacturing capabilities, labor costs, and shipping. Asia-Pacific often offers lower base prices, while North America and Europe may include higher compliance and service costs .

#### Typical Price Examples

- **Small 11kV switchboard:** \$20,000–\$50,000 for a standard metal-enclosed unit with basic protection and metering .
  - **Medium 20kV–33kV switchboard:** \$50,000–\$120,000 depending on busbar capacity, short-circuit rating, and arc-resistant features .
  - **High-end GIS or fully customized HV switchboard:** \$150,000–\$250,000+, including advanced protection relays, SCADA integration, and modular expansion options .
- #### Market Trends

The global HV switchboard market is growing, driven by renewable energy integration, grid modernization, and industrial expansion. SF6-free designs, digital monitoring, and modular retrofitting are increasingly standard, which can influence pricing . Bulk procurement (20+ units) may yield 15–30% cost reductions .

#### Recommendations

- **Specify requirements clearly:** Voltage, current rating, short-circuit capacity, insulation type, and protection features.
- **Compare suppliers:** Consider both local and international vendors for cost, lead time, and warranty.
- **Evaluate refurbished options:** For budget-sensitive projects, refurbished switchboards can provide reliable performance at lower cost.
- **Include installation and support:** Ensure the quote covers commissioning, spare parts, and technical support for long-term reliability. By considering these factors, you can obtain a realistic price estimate for complete high-voltage switchboard equipment tailored to your application and budget .

## Article Content

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Substation Cost Estimator

The above price factors in the cost to mobilize crews, erect the equipment (on steel where applicable), and pour foundations. Aside

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